in States including CBSE. The ratio of enrolment in class XII as compared to class I is highest in Delhi and lowest in Nagaland.

Management of Government run schools

†246. SHRI KRIPAL PARMAR: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have made any review regarding management of Government run schools, the facilities available to students, teacher-student relation and reasons for dropping out schools in between;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the remedial steps proposed to be taken for proper functioning of these schools?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT [DR. (SHRIMATI) RITA VERMA]: (a) to (c) 'Education' is on the concurrent list and school education is primarily the concern of State/UT Governments. Central Government has not made any specific review regarding management of Government run schools, the facilities available to students, teacher-student relation and reasons for dropping out etc.

Burden of books

†247. SHRI KRIPAL PARMAR: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware of the concern expressed by specialists regarding incidence of sickness among students due to increasing load of books, particularly the students of primary and middle levels;

(b) if so, whether Government are considering to reduce the increasing load of books on students; and

(c) if so, the action plan prepared or steps taken by Government in this regard and the results achieved therefrom?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT [DR. (SHRIMATI) RITA VERMA]: (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) The National Advisory Committee set up under the

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

Chairmanship of Prof. Yash Pal made a number of recommendations regarding the reduction of the academic burden on school children. In the meeting of the Central Advisory Board on Education, the State Governments expressed their broad agreement with the recommendations of the Yash Pal Committee. The Government have impressed upon the State Governments/ UTs from time to time for expeditious implementation of the recommendations. The implementation of these recommendations has been initiated by most States and Central Agencies. The new National Curriculum Framework for School Education brought out by NCERT recently emphasizes reduction of curriculum load at all levels. This has been circulated to all State Governments/UTs for implementation of the suggestions made therein.

Self-sufficiency for universities

248. SHRI P.K. MAHESHWARI: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the task force on education has recommended to Government to reduce the funding for universities and make them to adopt the route of self-sufficiency;

(b) if so, the details of main recommendations made by the task force;

(c) whether Government propose to facilitate participation of Non-Governmental Organisations in education, within the framework of a national system of education; and

(d) if so, the details thereof, alongwith the policy formulated by Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT [DR. (SHRIMATI) RITA VERMA]: (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. 'The Special Subject Group on Policy Framework for Private Investment in Education, Health and Rural Development' has recommended in this regard as follows:—

"Just as economic infrastructure is seen as critical to an industrial society, development of educational infrastructure must be seen as critical to a knowledge society. Infrastructure for schools—buildings, telecom networks and computers—have to be funded on a priority basis. The Government can